IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A semiconductor device comprising:

an insulation film formed on a substrate;

a buried wire formed in the insulation film; and

a barrier metal film formed between the insulation film and the buried wire,

wherein the barrier metal film is formed of a metal oxide film, a transition layer and a metal film stacked in this order in the direction from a side of the barrier metal film at which the insulation film exists to a side thereof at which the buried wire exists, and

wherein the transition layer is formed of a single atomic layer having substantially an intermediate composition between respective compositions of the metal oxide film and the metal film.

- 2. (Original) The semiconductor device of claim 1, wherein a metal forming the metal oxide film and a metal forming the metal film are different elements.
- 3. (Original) The semiconductor device of claim 1, wherein a metal forming the metal oxide film and a metal forming the metal film are the same element.
 - 4. (Original) A semiconductor device comprising:

an insulation film formed on a substrate;

a buried wire formed in the insulation film; and

a barrier metal film formed between the insulation film and the buried wire,

wherein the barrier metal film is formed of a metal oxide film, a transition layer and a metal film stacked in this order in the direction from a side of the barrier metal film at which the insulation film exists to a side thereof at which the buried wire exists, and

wherein the transition layer is formed of a plurality of atomic layers having substantially an intermediate composition between respective compositions of the metal oxide film and the metal film.

- 5. (Original) The semiconductor device of claim 4, wherein a metal forming the metal oxide film and a metal forming the metal film are different elements.
- 6. (Original) The semiconductor device of claim 4, wherein a metal forming the metal oxide film and a metal forming the metal film are the same element.
 - 7. (Original) A semiconductor device comprising:
 - an insulation film formed on a substrate;
 - a buried wire formed in the insulation film; and
 - a barrier metal film formed between the insulation film and the buried wire,

wherein the barrier metal film is formed of a transition layer and a metal film stacked in this order in the direction from a side of the barrier metal film at which the insulation film exists to a side thereof at which the buried wire exists, and

wherein the transition layer is formed of a single atomic layer including a metal oxide and a metal forming the metal film and having substantially an intermediate composition between respective compositions of the metal oxide and the metal film.

- 8. (Original) The semiconductor device of claim 7, wherein a metal forming the metal oxide and a metal forming the metal film are different elements.
- 9. (Original) The semiconductor device of claim 7, wherein a metal forming the metal oxide and a metal forming the metal film are the same element.
 - 10. (Original) A semiconductor device comprising: an insulation film formed on a substrate;

a buried wire formed in the insulation film; and

a barrier metal film formed between the insulation film and the buried wire,

wherein the barrier metal film is formed of a transition layer and a metal film stacked in this order in the direction from a side of the barrier metal film at which the insulation film exists to a side thereof at which the buried wire exists, and

wherein the transition layer is formed of a plurality of atomic layers including metal oxide and a metal forming the metal film and having substantially an intermediate composition between respective compositions of the metal oxide and the metal film.

- 11. (Original) The semiconductor device of claim 10, wherein a metal forming the metal oxide and a metal forming the metal film are different elements.
- 12. (Original) The semiconductor device of claim 10, wherein a metal forming the metal oxide and a metal forming the metal film are the same element.
 - 13. (Cancelled)
- 14. (Original) A method for fabricating a semiconductor device, the method comprising the steps of:

forming a recess portion in an insulation film provided on a substrate;

forming a barrier metal film including a metal oxide film, a transition layer and a metal film stacked in this order so that the barrier metal film covers surfaces of the recess portion; and forming a buried wire on the barrier metal film so that the recess portion is filled,

wherein the step of forming the barrier metal film includes the step of performing a single cycle of deposition by atomic layer deposition, thereby forming the transition layer of a single atomic layer having substantially an intermediate composition between respective compositions of the metal oxide film and the metal film.

- 15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein a metal forming the metal oxide film and a metal forming the metal film are different elements.
- 16. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein a metal forming the metal oxide film and a metal forming the metal film are the same element.
- 17. (Original) A method for fabricating a semiconductor device, the method comprising the steps of:

forming a recess portion in an insulation film provided on a substrate;

forming a barrier metal film including a metal oxide film, a transition layer and a metal film stacked in this order so that the barrier metal film covers surfaces of the recess portion; and

forming a buried wire on the barrier metal film so that the recess portion is filled,

wherein the step of forming the barrier metal film includes the step of performing a plurality of cycles of deposition by atomic layer deposition, thereby forming the transition layer including a plurality of atomic layers having substantially an intermediate composition between respective compositions of the metal oxide film and the metal film.

- 18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein a metal forming the metal oxide film and a metal forming the metal film are different elements.
- 19. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein a metal forming the metal oxide film and a metal forming the metal film are the same element.
- 20. (Original) A method for fabricating a semiconductor device, the method comprising the steps of:

forming a recess portion in an insulation film provided on a substrate;

forming a barrier metal film including a transition layer and a metal film stacked in this order so that the barrier metal film covers surfaces of the recess portion; and

forming a buried wire on the barrier metal film so that the recess portion is filled,
wherein the step of forming the barrier metal film includes the step of performing a single
cycle of deposition by atomic layer deposition, thereby forming the transition layer made of a
single atomic layer including a metal oxide and a metal forming the metal film and having
substantially an intermediate composition between respective compositions of the metal oxide
and the metal film.

- 21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein a metal forming the metal oxide and a metal forming the metal film are different elements.
- 22. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein a metal forming the metal oxide and a metal forming the metal film are the same element.
- 23. (Original) A method for fabricating a semiconductor device, the method comprising the steps of:

forming a recess portion in an insulation film provided on a substrate;

forming a barrier metal film including a transition layer and a metal film stacked in this order so that the barrier metal film covers surfaces of the recess portion; and

forming a buried wire on the barrier metal film so that the recess portion is filled,

wherein the step of forming the barrier metal film includes the step of performing a plurality of cycles of deposition by atomic layer deposition, thereby forming the transition layer including a plurality of atomic layers made of a metal forming a metal oxide and the metal film and having an intermediate composition between respective compositions of the metal oxide and the metal film.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein a metal forming the metal oxide and a metal forming the metal film are different elements.

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- 25. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein a metal forming the metal oxide and a metal forming the metal film are the same element.
 - 26. (Cancelled)